

Remember, what America makes and grows, makes and grows America.

### HONORING VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

#### HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2023

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and thank the Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and bravery to defend this country. On Wednesday, we observed Vietnam Veterans Day, a day to pause and remember the sacrifice and heroism of our veterans in one of our country's longest and most difficult conflicts.

We observe National Vietnam Veterans Day on March 29th to pay tribute to the 9 million Americans who served during this era. This year, March 29 is not only National Vietnam Veterans Day, but it is also the 50th anniversary of March 29, 1973, the day the United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam was disestablished, and the day the last U.S. combat troops departed Vietnam. In addition, on and around this same day Hanoi released the last of its acknowledged prisoners of war.

We are blessed to enjoy the freedom and security in this country today because of the sacrifice and service of veterans like these. As elected representatives, we have no higher duty than to ensure our nation's heroes receive the recognition they have earned and to commemorate the 58,000 soldiers that never made it home.

We cannot express our gratitude enough for all the Americans who served in Vietnam. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Vietnam veterans not just on this day, but every day. Our nation is forever in their debt.

### BULGARIA ADVANCES ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

#### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Elias Gedeon, senior vice president for Westinghouse Energy Systems, for signing a Memorandum of Understanding to commence preparation for the probable deployment of at least one of their AP1000 reactors to Bulgaria's Kozloduy nuclear power plant.

Kozloduy NPP-Newbuild, with chairman Georgy Kirkov, has undertaken the project, implemented March 1st, to build the new reactors at the site, ensure the licensing and structure comply with regulations, while also achieving Bulgaria's nuclear energy goals.

"This cooperative agreement sets us up on a path toward providing both economic and environmental benefits from the Bulgarian people while bolstering the country's energy security," stated David Durham, Energy Systems President for Westinghouse.

As chairman of the Bulgarian Caucus, I appreciate President of Bulgaria Rumen Radev on the significant development made towards reaching the country's nuclear energy goals.

### RECOGNIZING PETE REED

#### HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2023

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with my colleague, Rep. FRANK PALONE, to honor the life and selfless service of Pete Reed. Pete was a beloved part of the Bordentown, New Jersey community. He was a Marine Corps veteran who was killed in Ukraine last month while volunteering on a humanitarian mission. Pete was in Ukraine providing medical care to injured Ukrainian servicemembers and civilians, putting his own life in danger to try and save others, when he was killed in a missile strike.

Pete dedicated his life to helping people in need. In the Marine Corps, Pete did two tours in Helmand, Afghanistan. Following his service, he joined Team Rubicon to help his neighbors recover from Superstorm Sandy and ended up beginning a new career as a paramedic.

His wife Alex described Pete as always placing others' needs above his own and committing himself and serving to benefit others. Pete was also highly involved in the founding of Global Response Medicine, to provide emergency medical care for "the world's most vulnerable people in the midst of conflict, war, or disaster." That same drive to serve is what took Pete to Ukraine, to help people who were under siege by one man's egotistical quest for warmongering.

Pete was a kind soul who inspired the people around him and brought peace and calm to the people he touched. We were lucky to have Pete as part of our community. His courage and compassion are examples that we all can and should follow in our own lives. Our sympathies are with Alex, Pete's entire family, his friends, and for anyone who knew him and are grieving for his loss. It's clear that he had a profound impact on New Jersey and on the world. Pete will be missed.

### HONORING IRVIN LEWIS COIN

#### HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2023

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Irvin Lewis Coin—an educator, philanthropist, and community leader in my home state of Arizona. Irvin was a member of the Hopi Tribe and devoted his life to ensuring that young people, regardless of their background or social status, had the opportunity to pursue higher education. Throughout his 40-year career, he helped change the lives of many and my state, and our nation, is a better place because of him.

Irvin grew up in a one-bedroom house just steps away from the railroad tracks along the historic Route 66 in Winslow. Early in life, he learned to play the trumpet—and he was good at it too. His musical talent helped him earn a scholarship to Arizona State University in Tempe, and he graduated in 1958 with a bachelor's degree in education. Irvin began teaching in public high schools in the Phoenix area, and after earning his master's degree,

he became the first director of ASU TRIO, where he laid the groundwork for ASU's TRIO Programs at the university. Because of his work, thousands of low-income, first-generation college students and students with disabilities have been empowered with the tools to achieve their highest aspirations.

Irvin also served as the president of the Western Association of Educational Opportunity Personnel Board of Directors, where he worked to ensure educational opportunities through the members that represented the TRIO program personnel. He strived to create what he called "an army of leaders whose purpose is to change the world." Today, students and teachers across the nation benefit from Irvin's philanthropy—and his visionary leadership has created intergenerational prosperity and opportunity for families in Arizona.

Arizona owes a debt of gratitude to Irvin, who we lost at the age of 82 on February 24. His commitment to making a difference in the lives of others will be felt for generations to come. In this spirit of gratitude and remembrance, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Irvin Lewis Coin.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLIE DOWD

#### HON. RYAN K. ZINKE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2023

Mr. ZINKE. Mr. Speaker, Montana and Americans everywhere lost a great patriot, warrior, and servant with the passing of Mr. Charles A. "Charlie" Dowd, radioman, U.S. Navy.

Born in Rochester, NY, and later calling Montana home, Charlie was the son of a World War I veteran and enlisted in the Navy while he was in high school. At age 17 he received his orders and was assigned to duty at Pearl Harbor. On the evening of December 6, 1941, Dowd reported for duty at 2330. He worked through the night before returning to his barracks at daybreak.

Dowd awoke to America under attack. In just his T-shirt and boxer shorts he grabbed his rifle and brass and took position on the roof. He fired so many rounds at attacking Japanese combatants that his rifle barrel burned like his anger. As Dowd recalled some years later, "I didn't have any fear at the time," he said. "We were angry." It was that courage and anger and love of country that eventually led us to victory in the Pacific and Europe.

There were 2,403 service members and civilians who died that day, and 14 of them were from Montana. As one of the few survivors on the attack at Pearl Harbor, he continued his military service on vessels in the Pacific Theater in the Solomon Islands and New Guinea until the end of the war and was discharged in 1945.

For his military service, he was awarded multiple Bronze Stars and several other commendations.

I had the honor of visiting Dowd over the years. Listening to his stories and the stories of the men he served with are humbling and moving. More than 70 years later at 99 years old, he could still tap to the messages he sent as a radioman in Morse code on the table we visited on in Anaconda.